

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for transferring web page source data between a web server and a remote client over a computer network, the method comprising:

5 receiving a request for the web page source data from the remote client, the web page source data containing renderable and non-renderable data, the request being received at an acceleration device positioned on the computer network intermediate the remote client and the web server;

10 filtering at least a portion of the non-renderable data from the requested web page source data, thereby creating modified web page source data; and

15 sending the modified web page source data to the remote client;

20 wherein the non-renderable data is selected from a group consisting of whitespace, comments, hard returns, meta tags, keywords configured to be interpreted by a search engine, and commands not interpretable by the remote client.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein filtering further includes filtering tags of the web page source data by rewriting tags of the web page source data in lowercase.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising, sending an original, unfiltered version of the requested web page source data to the remote client.

5 4. The method of claim 3, wherein an original, unfiltered version of the requested web page source data is sent to the remote client in response to a subsequent request from the remote client for the original, unfiltered version.

10 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising, compressing the modified web page source data before sending it to the remote client.

15 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the web server and acceleration device are connected by a LAN.

20 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the acceleration device and remote client are connected by a WAN.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the WAN is the Internet.